THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Hiroshi KANNO, et al.

Filed : Concurrently herewith

5 For : ELECTRONIC MONEY SETTLEMENT....

Serial No. : Concurrently herewith

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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September 11, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

20 SIR:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the specification as follows: